

# 2008 CENSUS INFORMATION FOR IOWA

## NATIONAL COMPARISON

- Iowa had an estimated 3,002,555 residents in 2008 according to the U.S. Census Bureau, a gain of 76,174 compared to the 2000 census. This gain of 2.6% was less than the growth rate for the nation (8.0%).
- Surrounding state populations grew at a rate greater than Iowa's in the last decade. However, their growth rates were also less than the national average.
- Nine states (Massachusetts, Vermont, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, West Virginia, Rhode Island, North Dakota, and Louisiana) had a slower growth rate than Iowa.
- Six states accounted for 56.3% of the total national population growth: Texas, California, Florida, Georgia, Arizona, and North Carolina.
- Iowa's population increased by 12.7% since 1950. Only two states, North Dakota and West Virginia, had a smaller growth rate than Iowa during this time.
- Iowa's population growth of 25.7% during the last 100 years is the lowest growth rate in the nation.
- In 1900, Iowa was the 10th most populous of the 48 states and the District of Columbia. By 2008, Iowa ranked 30th in terms of population.

## IOWA FACTS

- The farm population decreased substantially while small towns remained relatively stable. The number of people living in the country, but not in small towns or on farms, increased throughout the last 55 years.
- The number of people aged 75 years or older have increased each of the last five decades. Data from the 2000 Census indicates Iowa had more residents 75 years old or older than children under the age of 5. There are 14 other states where this occurred.
- Projections by Woods and Poole Economics, Inc., indicate that Iowa's population will continue to age and grow slowly.
- In 2008 Iowa had 947 incorporated places.
  - There were 676 places with less than 1,000 residents.
  - There were 116 places with between 1,000 and 1,999 residents.
  - There were 82 places with between 2,000 and 4,999 residents.
  - There were 37 places with between 5,000 and 9,999 residents.
  - There were 26 places with between 10,000 and 49,999 residents.
  - There were 10 places with greater than 50,000 residents.
- Twenty-four of Iowa's counties gained residents since 2000. Of these, 11 counties had increases greater than 1,000 people.
- Population gains for Polk, Dallas, Johnson, and Linn counties exceeded 10,000 people.
- Seventy-five counties experienced declining populations. Forty-eight had population declines of at least 500 people. A total of 21 counties had declines greater than 1,000 people.
- Six counties had populations in excess of 100,000 people: Black Hawk, Johnson, Linn, Polk, Scott, and Woodbury. These six counties account for 38.5% of Iowa's total population.
- A total of 51.1% of Iowa's population is concentrated in 11 counties: Black Hawk, Clinton, Dallas, Dubuque, Johnson, Linn, Polk, Pottawattamie, Scott, Story, and Woodbury.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

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